THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c) According to the inforamation furnished by the Indian Council of Historical Research, the essential qualifications prescribed for the post of the Director, ICHR, *inter alia*, include "at least 10 years experience in teaching or guiding research". The present incumbent of the post of the Director possesses experience of more than 25 years in conducting/guiding research scholars in the National Archieves of India and has a number of books and published articles to his credit. In a counter affidavit filed in the High Court by the Secretary (Administration) of the ICHR, it was *inter alia*, stated that the present Director satisfied the qualifications as per recruitment rules.

Brahmaputra River as National Waterway

1862. SHRI PRITHIBI MAJHI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to declare the Brahmaputra river as a National Waterway; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) by when ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) Concurrence of State Government of Assam is awaited for the purpose of finalization of the proposal for declaration of Brahmaputra as a National Waterway.

Recognition to the Diplomas conferred by the Indian Institute of Planning and Management

1863. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Institute of Planning and Management is registered under the Registration of Societies Act at New Delhi;

(b) whether the Institute is running a campus at Gurgaon for teaching Management Studies and conferring diplomas on the course participants;

(c) whether the scheme of course content and the scheme of conferring diplomas are recognised and approved by the Government; and

(d) if not, whether it is a fact that a number of public sector undertakings of the Central Government recognize these diplomas for the post of appointment as claimed in the brochure and the admission form issued by the Institute while inviting applications during the current year; i.e. 1987 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (d) The Indian Institute of Planning and Management, New Delhi, which is registered under the Registration of Societies Act, has not approached the Department of Education for recognition of the programmes in Management bein conducted by them. No recognition has been given to these programmes by the Government of India. Being an Institution, whose programmes are not evaluated or recognised, this department has no information about this Institute's conferring diploma to students. As the diploma is not one of the recognised qualifications, the question of employment in Central Government by virtue of the diploma does not arise.

Agitation by railway commuters for change in timings of Bombay-Gandhidham Express

1864. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the news item 'Agitating Railway Commuters Canned' which appeared in the Indian Post, Bombay of 2nd October, 1987;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that Kutch Yuvak Sangh is constantly demanding